

actual cautery, acupuncture, galvanism, etc., which was cured by stretching the sciatic nerve. There was some loss of power in the leg, which was at first considerable, but on the whole the improvement was great, as there was no return of the pain.—*Glasgow Med. Journal*, Nov., 1882.

Dr. C. A. Wheaton reports the case of a farmer who had suffered for six months from a most severe sciatica, that had been unsuccessfully submitted to almost every variety of treatment. The lower half of the thigh and leg was much atrophied, and his general condition was bad. It was decided to perform the operation of nerve-stretching, which has succeeded so finely in many cases. The operation was performed in the usual manner; the nerve was found swollen, injected, and much less dense than normal; the stretching was made with a good deal of force, but no "sensation as of something giving way" was felt. The patient rallied well from the anæsthesia, but in two hours after the operation was suffering as much pain as before. He suffered constantly for about thirteen hours, when he became suddenly unconscious and died without a struggle.—*Trans. Minn. State Med. Assoc.*, 1882.

Isenschmidt reports a very successful case of nerve-stretching for sciatica of two years' standing. The patient was an old man. The operation was performed in Nussbaum's clinic and by Nussbaum himself.—*Deutsche Mediz.-Zeitung*, Jan. 26, 1883.

GELSEMINUM IN TETANUS.—Dr. John B. Read reports the case of a strong, healthy mulatto woman, twenty years of age, who was suffering from tetanus, due to a bit of glass embedded in the heel. The fluid extract of gelseminum was given in twenty-minim doses every two hours, alternating with the same quantity of liquor potassæ. On the second day there was some improvement. Convulsions returning, however, the dose was increased to forty minims. Improvement was continuous, and complete cure resulted. No toxic symptoms developed.—*Brit. Med. Journal*, Dec. 23, 1882.

CHLORAL IN TETANUS.—Nicaïsne reports the case of a man, aged thirty-seven, suffering from tetanus. From Sept. 25th to Oct. 3d he received between four and six grammes of chloral daily. The patient got well. Nicaïsne thinks that treatment should begin with small doses of chloral, gradually increasing until toxic symptoms appear.—*Progrès méd.*, 1882, No. 41.

THE TREATMENT OF TABES DORSALIS.—In a paper read before the Society of German Naturalists and Physicians, and subsequently published in the *Berliner klin. Wochenschrift*, Eulenberg discusses the subject of the treatment of tabes dorsalis. He believes that the disease is sometimes practically cured. Among

300 cases treated by himself, three had recovered and had remained well up to date of writing (five to seven years). These cases had been treated chiefly by nitrate of silver, by galvanotherapy, and hydrotherapy, alone or combined. Eulenberg explained the fact that some cases do not respond at all to nitrate of silver, by supposing that that salt was not absorbed. He therefore had used hypodermically a more soluble preparation.

[In the debate which followed Eulenberg's paper, Senator spoke highly of silver nitrate, but thought it only caused temporary improvement. Its action was better among hospital than among private patients, because the former were made to take it more regularly, and had more muscular rest.

Dr. V. Mering, of Strasburg, suggested the glycocholate of silver as a suitable soluble preparation.]—*Debatte auf der Naturforscherversammlung zu Eisenach*, 1882.

Leyden discusses the therapeutics of tabes from a very sceptical stand-point, calling attention to the fact that no single remedy is uniformly successful even in palliating the disease. The best results follow careful regulation of diet and habits, with hydrotherapy.—*Separat-Abdruck aus der Real-Encyclopädie*, Wein u. Leipzig, 1883.

F. Schultze reports a case of tabes with a classical history. The symptoms disappeared under the use of nitrate of silver and galvanotherapy. The patient remained practically well for twelve years. He then died through an accident. Post-mortem showed the lesions of tabes still present.—*Archiv f. Psych. u. Nerven*, xii, 1.

SMALL DOSES FREQUENTLY REPEATED.—Dr. A. A. Smith gives a summary of the effects of certain remedies administered in small doses frequently repeated. In trigeminal neuralgia, croton chloral gr. i every half hour; in migraine, citrate of caffeine gr. i every half hour; in neuralgias about the face or head, tincture of gelsemium ℥i every half hour; in sick headache, not of neurotic origin, tincture of nux vomica ℥i every ten minutes. Small doses of the bromides are also recommended for the nervous disturbances of children.—*New York Medical Journal*, Feb. 10, 1883.

EXPERIMENTS WITH CERTAIN AGENTS IN THE TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY.—Dr. Paul Bricon has made a series of experiments at Bicêtre regarding the effect of certain therapeutic measures in the treatment of epilepsy. These measures were hydrotherapy, arsenic compounds, magnetism, and pilocarpine.

Among fifty-four epileptic patients to whom hydrotherapy was applied, ten were decidedly improved, seventeen slightly improved, the rest were not affected. Among seventeen of those improved, there was no other treatment.